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Evidence of Microsoft's vulnerability

These slides suggest, without offering definitive proof, that National Security Agency programs targeting Google and Yahoo for collection also had Microsoft in their sights. Microsoft, suspecting NSA spying, to ramp up efforts to encrypt its Internet traffic

The details

Click to see the related section of the document.

Hotmail address books collected

The NSA's list of sources for the collection of online address books includes Hotmail, a Web-based service from Microsoft, along with Google, Yahoo and Facebook.

A reference to a Hotmail message

"@hotmaMJaiO" is a garbled reference to an e-mail collected from Hotmail.

An instant message from Windows Live Messenger

This appears to show the interception of a communication on Windows Live Messenger, a former instant-messaging service from Microsoft (note the string "messenger.live.com"). Since this appears in 'cleartext' (not SSL-encrypted), it is not clear whether this happened on the public Internet or as traffic moved between Microsoft data centers.

To print the document, click the "Original Document" link to open the original PDF. At this time it is not possible to print the document with annotations.

GRAPHIC: Craig Timberg and Matt DeLong - The Washington Post. Published Nov. 26, 2013.

13 Comments

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giaimo13 wrote:
11/28/2013 9:57 PM EST

The more data you acquire, the less valuable it all becomes, the harder you have to look for salient data within that enormous data set, and the greater the likelihood that you will miss something significant. This whole thing is typical of how governments operate and why they are terrible at management and execution. Think for a moment about the assumptions they must be embracing at a very high level: If we can't figure out who the players are, then we'll just look at EVERYBODY, and eventually, we'll find the bad guys. It's a completely backward way to approach the problem.

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djp11 wrote:
11/27/2013 11:02 AM EST

In the movie, who will play Snowden?

(Heard Peewee Herman's looking for a gig).

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LibsAreDrones wrote:
11/27/2013 9:56 AM EST

Why is my computer each day asking for a Java update?...is it really a "Java Update"?

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pat_rat wrote:
11/27/2013 9:42 AM EST

What! Microsoft has security vulnerabilities? How could this be?!?!

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babalooixnay wrote:
11/27/2013 8:42 AM EST

That's cute, bad men hacking Micro Soft. The original inventors of the back door for law enforcement.

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govtminion wrote:
11/27/2013 8:42 AM EST

they have so many back doors that even their support often does not know about all of them.

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govtminion wrote:
11/27/2013 8:40 AM EST

Of course Microsoft has vulnerabilities, it always has. Without a doubt, the NSA spies on Microsoft and any traffic generated using Microsoft products. Not to say Microsoft is worse than other OSes, but it is easier to hack than say Red Hat Unix which is the product most high performance web site run on. So of course, the NSA can, has, and will continue to snoop on American corporations and American citizens with no search warrant. The govt is now the master and the citizens have been reduced to serfs.

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pwrtoppl wrote:
11/27/2013 8:24 AM EST

MS applications are as open as a barn gate for just about anything out there in cyberspace.

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> **govtminion** wrote:
> 11/27/2013 8:47 AM EST
>
> There are a few engineers, relatively speaking, at Microsoft trying to protect Windows systems. There are millions of hackers out there trying to break in? who do u think will win? Windows is the most used OS in the world, and the biggest target for millions potentially of hackers. that includes their server products and desktop software.,
>
> Like | Reply

funnyball wrote:
11/27/2013 7:54 AM EST

i hope it works.

Like | Reply | Share |

Thesmartestladyhere wrote:
11/26/2013 11:57 PM EST

Amazing how people continue to be concerned about this. It's just so trendy, they can't help themselves. Sheep should start worrying about something that matters.

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> **phathed** wrote:
> 11/27/2013 1:28 AM EST
>
> That's unnecessarily snotty.....you can care about more than one thing at a time. And best to put it into words. Drone wars. Never ending debt to China. Bank Bailouts. Endless War, just what they want. Ecological destruction.
>
> Like | Reply

smallwonders1 wrote:
11/26/2013 11:51 PM EST

What is missing is the real "details" . Only segments of the slideshows are posted. The real incriminating evidence is in the full PowerPoint files, not just a few slides.

Of course, the threat of posting the "Full Monty" is possibly why Mr. Snowden is, presumably, still alive.

Given the violations of the Constitution even the excerpts provide, killing a "spy" is not even a mote of a problem. So that (threatening to release the full information) would explain why he is still with us.

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